

A Controlled Vocabulary for Biblical Studies

Presented March 27 at BibleTech:2010

Dozens of books provide terminology from the field of Biblical studies, principally Bible dictionaries, encyclopedias, and other subject-oriented reference works. However, the terminology used varies between books, authors, and publishers, and doesn't always include all the terms a user might employ to find information. The Logos Controlled Vocabulary (LCV) organizes content from multiple Bible dictionaries to integrate information across the Logos library. As a controlled vocabulary, the LCV identifies, organizes, and systematizes a specific set of terms for indexing content, capturing inter-term relationships, and expressing term hierarchies. Like other kinds of metadata, this infrastructure then supports applications in search, discovery, and general knowledge management. The initial version of the LCV (shipping now with Logos 4) comprises some 11,100 terms, and continues to grow as more reference works are added. It also provides the backbone of <http://topics.logos.com>, a website for user contributions. This talk will describe the building of the LCV, how we're using it now, and how we plan to use and extend it in the future. This includes some interesting new capabilities for machine learning from existing prose content.

[Slides \(HTML\)](#)